

SEX FULFILMENT IN MARRIED WOMEN. By Helena Wright, M.B., B.S.

Pp. 96. Williams & Norgate. 5s.

THIS book is the product of twenty years interest in this particular subject and is a sequel to an earlier book by the same author, "The Sex Factor in Marriage."

Further study, involving thousands of interviews and close follow-up work, have convinced the author of the necessity to "amplify certain fundamentals which are essential to the understanding of sexual relations."

In the foreword and opening chapter the problem is stated. Briefly, it is that, despite varying degrees of enlightenment on these matters, in the author's opinion not more than fifty per cent. of women ever achieve full sexual satisfaction. Those who fail are grouped into three categories: those who expect too much, those who expect nothing, and those who expect too little. Many would think her estimate too generous, but this grouping serves a useful purpose for the investigation of the factors involved in this prolific cause of dissatisfaction and instability in marriage.

"In accordance with established custom" an historical account of the efforts made in the past to solve this problem is then made. This achieves little more than conformity with custom, and the simple deduction that the problem is a very old one for which no one has ever found a satisfactory solution. The author then makes bold to say that "only now, after sixteen years of thought and experiment, she believes she has found the right solution."

Fundamental to this solution is the dispelling of three common misunderstandings: failure to grasp the difference between sexual response and sexual climax or orgasm in women; lack of understanding of the unique role played by the clitoris; and unconscious adherence to a pre-conceived mental picture of what a woman *ought* to feel during sexual intercourse.

There follows an extremely lucid analysis of these points.

It should be quite impossible for any enquiring woman who has read these chapters to be any longer in doubt as to whether or not she has experienced an orgasm, or for any thoughtful husband not to know what ways and means are at his disposal to help her to do so.

In conclusion, it may be said that the book is small, inexpensive, and non-technical, but obviously written by a married medical woman with a long and varied experience. A. T. S.

AIDS TO PSYCHOLOGY. By John H. Ewen, Esq., F.R.C.P.E., D.P.M. Third Edition. Baillière, Tindall & Cox. 1948. 5s.

THE author has achieved his objective in producing an excellent book for the student who wishes to revise the subject, having previously studied the larger text-books on psychology.

The text follows closely the teaching of McDougall and Stout, but, when discussing the conflicting theories, reference is made to the works of Freud, Jung, Adler, etc.

Little information is given about mental tests and their importance in education and personnel selection. J. A. S. M.

LECTURES ON THE LIVER AND ITS DISEASES (Comprising the Lowell Lectures, delivered at Boston, Massachusetts, in March, 1947). By H. P. Hinsworth, M.D., F.R.C.P. Pp. 204. E. & S. Livingstone. 18s. 6d.

In this fine monograph Professor Hinsworth surveys the extent and trends of current knowledge of liver disorders. The book is timely in view of recent advances in experimental work, and the impetus afforded to the study of liver disease by the increasing frequency of infective hepatitis and its complications during the last few years. In two hundred pages he sets himself the task of assembling a composite picture of this difficult subject; blending clinical observations with pathological data, outlining the natural history of the various disease processes, and assessing the rôles of essential nutrients and vascular factors in the evolution of the main types of parenchymatous hepatitis.

He succeeds admirably in the presentation of his material, and the excellence and economy of the text and classifications render his review indispensable to all students of medicine.

R. G. V.